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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO M-5957 10 MARCH 1969 PAGE 1 25X1

ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND TRAIL ACTIVITY NORTHERN LAOS

## 1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BOARD DEPICTS CONTINUING ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND TRAIL WIDENING IN THE MUONG SAI AND MUONG KHOUA AREAS OF LAOS.

#### 2. LOCATION:

MUONG SAI AND MUONG KHOUA ARE BOTH LOCATED IN NORTHERN LUANG PRABANG PROVINCE, NORTH CENTRAL LAOS.

### 3. BACKGROUND:

SINCE LATE LAST YEAR THE CHINESE HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTING A ROAD FROM THE CHINA BORDER NEAR BAN BOTENE, SOUTHEAST TO MUONG SAI. THE TRAIL WIDENING OPERATION NEAR MUANG KHOUA HAS BEEN UNDERWAY SINCE LAST SUMMER.

#### 4. MISSION READOUT:

THE ROAD UNDER CONSTRUCTION FROM BAN BOTENE NEAR THE CHINA/LAOS BORDER

TO MUONG SAI IS NOW OBSERVED TO EXTEND 6 NM NORTHEAST TO 204535N 1020300E

(UTM SH928981). A SURVEY LINE IS ALSO OBSERVED WHICH PASSES THROUGH MUONG LA AND

EXTENDS AN ADDITIONAL 11 NM NORTHEAST. THE PRESENT TERMINUS OF THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION

IS DEPICTED IN INSET #1 AND A SEGMENT OF THE SURVEY LINE IS SHOWN IN INSET #2.

A POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED TRAIL-WIDENING OPERATION IS LOCATED SOUTH AND WEST
OF THE NAM OU RIVER NEAR MUONG KHOUA AND ROUTE 19. THE OPERATION, WHICH APPARENTLY
STARTED LAST SUMMER, INCLUDES AT LEAST 56 NM OF TRAIL SWATH WHICH HAS BEEN

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REFERENCE:	OGRAFINE INTERFRETA	ATTACHMENT TO M-5957 10 MARCH 1969 PAGE 2	25X
WIDENED. ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT	BE ASSOCIATED WITH	THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION OR ROUTE	
19, NO INDIGENOUS TRAIL WIDEN	ING OF THIS MAGNITUD	E HAS BEEN OBSERVED IN NORTHERN	ī
LAOS BY NPIC IN THE PAST. AF	TER THE SWATH HAS BE	EN WIDENED (BY MEANS OF A	
CLEARING OPERATION) IT IS APP	PARENTLY ABANDONED A	S NO GRADING HAS BEEN OBSERVED.	
EXAMPLES OF THIS TRAIL WIDENIA	NG ARE DEPICTED ON I	INSETS 4 AND 5.	
THE PRESENT CONSTRUCT	ION TERMINUS OF ROUT	E 19 IS LOCATED ON THE BANK OF	THE
NAM OU RIVER, ACROSS FROM MUOI	NG KHOUA AT 210452N	1023040E (UTM TJ414329). THIS	
TERMINUS IS DEPICTED ON INSET	#3.	•	
5. <u>REMARKS</u> :			
NEW ROAD CONSTRUCTION	IN NORTHERN LAOS RE	PORTEDLY BEGAN DURING	25X
WITH A CHINESE FORCE NUI	MBERING BETWEEN 3,00	0 - 5,000 MEN INCLUDING BOTH	25 <b>X</b>
WORKERS AND SECURITY FORCES.	SOME HEAVY EQUIPMEN	T INCLUDING PNEUMATIC DRILLS,	
AT LEAST TEN BULLDOZERS OR TRA	ACTORS, AND ONE MOTO	RIZED ROLLER HAVE BEEN REPORTEI	)
IN THE AREA.			
			25
MISSION:			25X
MAD DEFENDENCE TO 3 OCC 200	nun 1:0 20 nun 1:0 20		
MAP REFERENCE: JOG 1:250,000	NF 47-12, NF 47-16 NF 48-9, NF 48-13		

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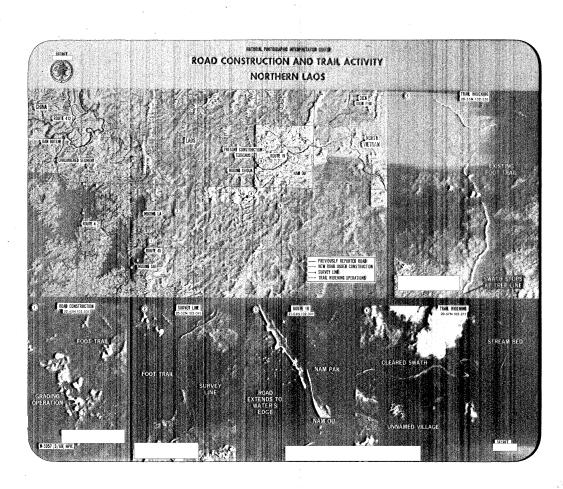
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